

***ANTHOCHARIS GRUNERI GRUNERI* HERRICH-SCHÄFFER,
(LEP.: PIERIDAE) NEW FOR THE GREEK ISLANDS**

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GRUNER'S ORANGE-TIP *Anthocharis gruneri gruneri* Herrich-Schäffer, [1851], occurs locally in the southern part of the Balkan Peninsula. The known range here comprises: Albania (Rebel & Zerny, 1931: 67), Macedonia (Jaksic, 1988: 58: map 43; Schaidler & Jaksic, 1989: map 47), Greece (Pamperis, 1997: 65) and Bulgaria (Abadjiev, 1992: 43). In Europe it has also been recorded for Hungary (a single specimen) (Bálint & Janáky, 1989:229–230; Bálint, 1991: 21).

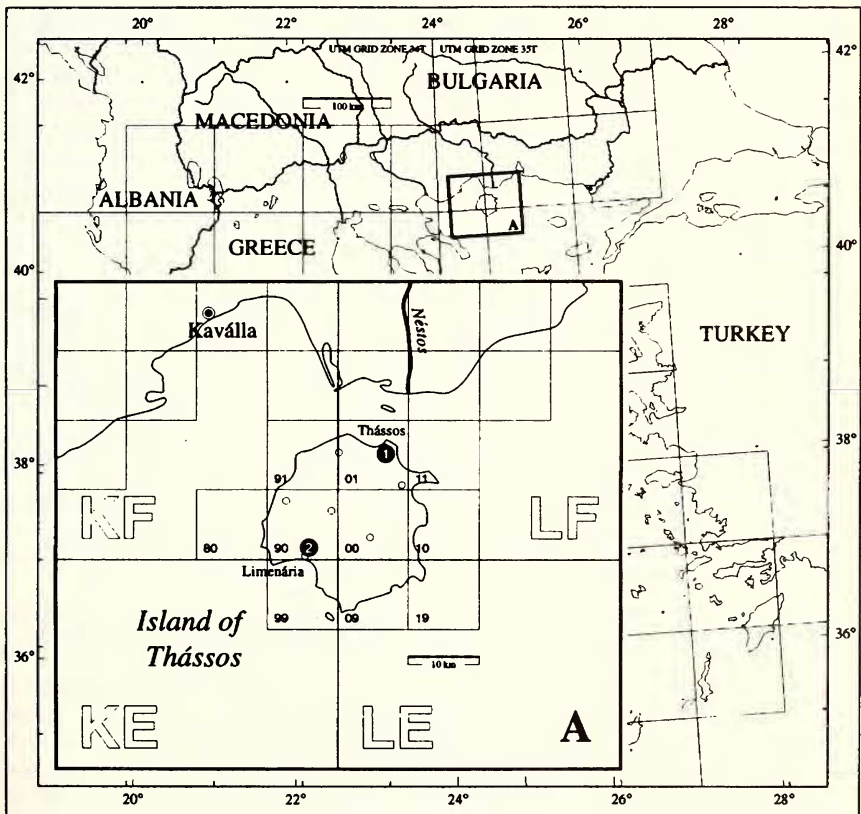


Figure 1. UTM map showing the position of localities of *A. gruneri gruneri* Herrich-Schäffer, [1851] on the Island of Thásos: (1) Thásos, (2) Limenaria (black filled circles).

When studying the rich butterfly collection of the National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) in Sofia, a small series of *Anthocharis gruneri* drew my attention. The specimens were collected by N. Karnozickij on the Island of Thásos in 1943. The localities and material examined are as follows: (1) Thásos (Limen) (UTM grid reference 35TLF01): 25.IV.[1]943 — 1 ♂; 27.IV.[1]943 — 1 ♀; 30.IV.[1]943 — 1 ♀; (2) Limenaria (UTM grid reference 35TKF90): 30.IV.[1]943 — 5 ♂♂; all N. Karnozickij leg. (see also Fig. 1). It should be noted that in the period of 1942–1944 many expeditions for collecting zoological, botanical, geological and other materials were organised by some Bulgarian institutions. N. Karnozickij himself visited Greek Aegean Coast and the Island of Thásos in 1942–1943 as a member of an expedition organised by the NMNH and The Sea Biological Station, Varna. Zoological results (concerning Coleoptera) were published subsequently (Karnozickij, 1959) but, unfortunately, nothing about Lepidoptera appeared.

After this unusual finding an extensive literature search has been carried out in order to find some published record about *A. gruneri* on Thásos. The only result was that the species has remained unrecorded for the Greek islands for a long time (cf Tolman, 1997: 49: “not reported from... Greek islands”) and as far as the Island of Thásos is concerned it is really absent in the modern faunal lists (Olivier, 1987; Littler, 1991).

Here the species is reported as new for the Island of Thásos (and even for the Greek islands as a whole).

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